

What powers did America's first constitution, the Articles of Confederation, grant the federal government? What was not allowed?

The Articles of Confederation created a weak federal government that allowed the federal government to make war and foreign government to levy taxes, raise troops, or regulate trade.

What were the most important and longest-lasting pieces of legislation during the Articles of Confederation government?

The Land Ordinance of 1785 divided the western lands into townships, allowing for one section of land to be used for public education. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 created the Northwest Territory and banned slavery there.

What did Shay's Rebellion indicate to many Americans?

Shay's Rebellion alerted Americans that a stronger central government was needed to control violent uprisings.

Why was the Annapolis Convention called? What was decided?

1) The Annapolis Convention was called to discuss problems regarding interstate commerce under the Articles of Confederation. 2) Delegates decided to call a convention of all states to revise the Articles of Confederation.

Who has been called the "father of the Constitution"?

James Madison

What was "the Great Compromise"?  
What plans did it incorporate?

The Great Compromise was the agreement reached at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 that established the federal government's bicameral legislature: a Senate in which each state was represented by two senators (New Jersey Plan), and a House of Representatives based on population (Virginia Plan).

What were the main tenets of the Three- Fifths Compromise?

1) Each slave would count as three-fifths of a person for purposes of taxation and representation. 2) The federal government was prohibited from stopping the importation of slaves prior to 1808.

What power was granted to the president that allowed him to check Congress?

The power to veto Congress's legislation

Which branch has the power to impeach the president or other high government officials?

The legislative branch or Congress

What is the Electoral College?

The Electoral College is a body of electors from each state, based on the state's combined number of senators and representatives. Its function is to elect the president.

What did Federalists advocate? What did Anti-Federalists advocate?

1) Federalists advocated a strong centralized government and endorsed the Constitution.  
2) Anti-Federalists advocated stronger states' rights and endorsed amending the Articles of Confederation.

What were "The Federalist Papers"?

The papers were written as a series of eighty-five newspaper articles by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison. They expounded the virtues of the Constitution.